



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Mount Rushmore National Memorial  
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Keystone, SD 57751

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[www.nps.gov/moru](http://www.nps.gov/moru)

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## Mount Rushmore National Memorial News Release

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### Celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the National Anthem

KEYSTONE, SD: You know the words, have sung them most of your life, but do you know the second verse or the third of the Star-Spangled Banner our National Anthem?

September 14, 2014 will mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the poem “The Defense of Fort McHenry” written by Francis Scott Key. This poem would eventually become our National Anthem. Key gathered inspiration from the persistence of the American’s defending Baltimore Harbor from British capture during the War of 1812 and by the large Flag that flew over Fort McHenry. The Flag that would eventually become known as the Star-Spangled Banner is preserved in the Smithsonian, National Museum of American History.

The Anniversary Celebration will begin at 1:00 pm on the Grand View Terrace.

1:00 pm Introduction of the Celebration of our Nation’s Anthem  
1:05 pm Park Ranger Dorothy Helder “This is our National Anthem”  
1:15 pm Flag folding demonstration and reading  
1:20 pm Folding of the Garrison Flag by the Public  
1:30 pm Singing of our “National Anthem”

Please join us at Mount Rushmore National Memorial on the Grand View Terrace for this patriotic celebration.

All dates and times are subject to change. Please check at the Information Center for a daily schedule of interpretive programs and special events. For more information, please visit Mount Rushmore National Memorial’s official website at [www.nps.gov/moru](http://www.nps.gov/moru) or call (605) 574-2523.

**[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)**

*About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 401 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).*